MESSAGE

Sent forth from the

RISEN SEED

OF

GOD,

BEING

A faithful expostulation and Testimony concerning the unjust and hard dealings of the Rulers and people in

ENGLAND,

WHO

Have a hand in the cruel oppressions and sufferings of the people of God, called

QUAKERS.

HArken and give ear ye Sons of men, and consider what ye are doing in making snares, traps and Gins for an Innocent people, what have we done against the Righteous and holy God, or against any of his Laws, or against any righteous just Laws of men, (since we were a people called and chosen of God out of the ways and vanities of this world,) that you should thus oppress, abuse and persecute us, as if we were not worthy to live upon the face of the earth: Why do you thus hunt us as a Partridge upon the Mountains, or as sheep for the slaughter? What evil have we done?

or what is our offence, that you like *Saul* persue us. If you pretend and say we are breakers of the Kings Laws, or Queens Laws, or Acts of Parliaments, or the like, if this be the only cause, then let me query or reason with you in Gods behalf: What are those Laws or Acts of Parliament, and the ground of them, by which a harmless and innocent people, are thus caused to suffer; who profess only the Law of Christ and of God, but worship him in the *Spirit* and truth, with our heart and understanding, minde and strength, and loves our neighbour as our selves, as God is witness, and even prayeth that God would open the eyes of them that hate us and despitfully use us, had not them in *Daniels* time, and in the Jews time, and in *Shedreck*, *Meshech*, and *Abednego* time Laws and Decrees sealed with Kings seals, which was against God and his dear children, (which worshipped him in spirit and truth as we do now) who suffered such things for the tryal of their faith and patience for a season, yea, he suffered *Cain* to kill his brother *Abel*, about sacrifice and worship, he suffered *Iudas* to betray Christ our elder brother, and the Rulers and Preists to crucifie and murder him by a Law, but what Law was it by which the Son of God was put to death, judge ye, was it not made in mans will, by that spirit that profest the good words, and had the sheeps Cloathing that did say and not do: and were not the *Scribes* and *Pharisees* and Rulers and Chief Preists Hipocrits that did so, and had not they their portion in the Lake that burns; And did not he say to them if you have done these things to the green tree, what will they do to the dry; And was not he had from Prison to Judgment, and numbred amongst transgressors, and is it not so now between you and us as it was then, the enmity between the two *Seeds* and Births; read and let Gods witness which reproves you in secret answer: And did not he suffer the *Prophets* to be stoned by the great professing City and people, and *Pashur* to smite *Ieremiah* on the mouth, and to be put in the Stocks and Dungeon for speaking the truth, and suffered *Zacharish* to be slain between the Porch and the Altar, and *Stephen* to be stoned for witnessing against Temples made with hands; and many such things God did suffer that evil and adulterous generation to inflict upon his servants and tender Children, who saith to their oppressors in this age, as he did then, fill ye up the measures of your Fathers that upon you may come the vengeance, for all the righteous bloodshed from *Zacharish* to this day.

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Are not you in the way of *Cain*, are not you in the way of the Jews, are not you in the way of the Heathen that did rage and the people that did imagin vain things, who took Counsel together, against the Lord and his anointed ones, saying let us break their bands asunder and cast away their Cords from us, and are not you now saying within your selves, and among your selves, let us break their meetings, and cast away or banish their strength from us, that their name may be blotted out, and their remembrance from amongst us, but he that sits in *Heaven* hath you in derision, who will laugh at your calamity; and mock when your fear and destruction cometh as a whirlwind: Are you not like *Herod* (that subtil Fox,) who sought the young Childs life as soon as it was born, & was not he prevented though he slew all the Males in that Region, about two years old or under; and are you not like *Pharoah*, and those dark Egyptians, Enchanters, Magicians and Wise men, who said let us deal wisely with them, least they multiply and become great in number, and so injoyned the Midwives to kill all the Males of the Hebrews, but was not *Moses* then born, and hid from them in an Ark of Bulrushes, whom God had appointed to be the leader & deliverer of his people out of *Egypt*, even thus are you deceived and God will prevent you and your intents, as he did them and theirs, whose Decrees were frustrated, and Laws and Counsels of none effect, for God hath sworn by himself, and he will performe it, that no weapon formed against *Jacob* or his seed shall prosper, nor any Inchantment or divination, against his *Israel* shall prevail, for he hath determined to exalt Truth and Righteousness in the earth, and to throw down wickedness, oppression, Idolatry, and ungodliness, and he will take the wise in their own craftiness, and lay low even to the dust, all the powers of the earth, who exalt themselves against him and his heritage, he respects not the persons of men, but will trample the ungodly as in a Wine-press, in his fury for his seed sake, who hath said to us his babes and children, concerning our oppressions, fear ye not the face of man; nor the revilings and threatnings of the sons of men, whose breath is in their nostriles, that shall be made as grass, the moth shall eat them up like wool; and I'le plead my cause with them, in their Consciences by my own witness, which seeth in secret, and beholds all their hard speeches, and ungodly deeds, which they have proudly spoken against me and my people; for ven-

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geance is mine, and I will repay it saith the Lord: Therefore hear now ye Rulers, Priests, Souldiers and people this day in *England*; who are bewing your hands in the blood of the innocent: and let me reason with you concerning these things; What was *Cain* and his way, to which the woe belongs to this day, was he not of the wicked one who slew his brother about worship and sacrifice, and are not they of the wicked one, (the murderer from the beginning) doth so now, let Gods witness in you answer, and what was *Balaam* and his way, who loved the wages of unrighteousness, whose madness and folly the dumb Asse with mans voice reproved, if you have ears to hear, hear, for many that hath been as dumb sod upon by you, and your predecessors, begins now to speak with mans voice, and are not you and your Teachers found in *Cains* way, and *Balaams* way; will not you murder and rob, and banish, and imprison and persecute about sacrifice and worship? Is not this *Cains* way and *Balaams* way; do not flatter your selves, nor daub with untempred morter, but let the witness of the just God arise and answer, which will speak the truth; which will be as a worm and moth, in the heart and bowels of the ungodly and hypocrits for ever, if you repent not with speed, if your Common prayers, and homilies, and Organs be the fruit of your ground, can you not offer it to your God and be content, or will not your God accept it at your hands, without you murder, rob, and persecute us, who offer unto our God Male and firstling of our flock, which opens the womb holy to the Lord; if you do well shall you not be accepted, but if not sin lyeth at your door like *Cain*, whose countenance fell who was wrath and slew his brother; consider these things for you have either a wicked God, (the Devil the God of this world) or your sacrifices are wicked and abominable, or you offer it with wicked hands, for God said unto *Cain* why art thou wrath? and why is thy countenance falling? if thou dost well shall thou not be accepted, but if not sin lyeth at the door, mind your state now you that can sing and pray, and murder about it, and make laws against the true worshippers of the living God in spirit and truth, and see what you are doing, and how far you are out of *Cains* way, and the Phatisees way, who could pay Tyth, and fast twise a week, and make long prayers or Common prayers as well as you, (and kill Christ Jesus and his Disciples) who had the *Latin*, *Greek* and *Hebrew* as well as you, and see what you differ from them,

and

and whether you are not of the same seed of evil doers, and let the witness of the dreadful God Judge in this matter, who will not be mocked with your Sacrifices and prayers, and will-worships, and feigned humiliations, its all abomination to him; therefore repent least while you rejoyce in the sound of your Organs, he sweep you down to Hell; And be awakened to Judgment, and arise and behould the great Controversie which is at this day between *Cain*, and *Abel*, Christ and Anti-christ, Light and darkness, Righteousness and unrighteousness, Truth and deceit and wickedness, what shall I say of it, but it is plainly between God and the Devil, the Lamb and the Dragon, *Michael* the Arch-angel, and the Devil and his Angels; and consider and see of whose side ye now are, and whether you are not them of whom *Enoch* the seventh from *Adam* prophesied, and *Jude* declared ungodly men, raging waves of the Sea, foaming out your own shame, speaking evil of things you know not, filthy dreamers, walking after your own ungodly lusts, the mockers and scoffers in these last days, speaking evil of Dignities, and despising Dominion, even the sons and Children of the most high God, and their Kingdome and Dominion which hath no end, of which *Abel* and *Enoch* was, whose life and Kingdom you know not, who of old were ordained to this condemnation, heady high minded, self willed, lovers of pleasures more then lovers of God; and whether you are not those Wells without water, and Clouds without rain carried about with a Tempest, having a forme of Religion, but denying the power of God; and persecutes them that live in it.

And whether you are not the Heathen that live at ease, with whom God is very sore displeased, which helps forward the affliction of his people, read your state and your portion, *Zach.* 1. 15. *Zeph.* 1. 5, 6, 7, 8, 12. And whether you are not them *that chant at the sound of the Viol, and drink Wine in Bowls, and eat the Lambs out of the flock; and anoynt your selves with the chief Ointments, inventing to your selves Instruments of Musick like* David, *and are not grieved for the affliction of* Joseph, *putting far away the evil day, and causing the seat of violence and oppression to come near ye which rejoice in a thing of nought*; read *Amos* 6. and within with Gods witness in your Consciences, and then behold us in your Goaley holes and stinking places of cruelty, who are a poor and an afflicted

afflicted people, whose trust is in the name of the Lord; for thus saith the Lord God concerning us who tremble at his word, I will appear to your joy, and they that hate you shall be ashamed; and I will lead *Ioseph* like a flock, and set the solitary in families, and they shall rejoyce in my highness, and sing for the glory of my *Majesty*, and I will joy over them and rejoyce to do them good; But as for you, your wresting of Judgement, and your turning of things upside down, and your Sword backward shall be rewarded upon your own heads; for as you have oppressed and lead into Captivity my people, and broke your words and Covenants, and your promises and ingagements concerning them and their worship of me the living God, which is in the Spirit and Truth (which shall not be limited;) Even so shall you be oppressed and go into Captivity, and be dealt treacherously with; for with the same measure you meet to them, shall others meet to you again. And who do you think will keep their Oaths, Covenants, promises and ingagements to them, that are false in their own to others; consider these things for because of sweating and forswearing, promising and treacherous dealing, Covenanting and breaking of the same, the Land mourns and will mourn, until the spirit of Lyes deceit and falshoot is banisht from amongst you; but the Proverb is true, the Tongue of the Just is as choice Silver, but the heart of the wicked is little worth, much less their words.

What are you? Or what is your power? Or whence came you? that you in your Generation should deal thus treacherously with God and man, to grind the faces of the poor, and eat up my people like bread, and slay them, and chop their flesh as for the Chaldron, will not blood be required at the hand of him that shed it, have not many of my Children suffered to death by your cruel imprisonments, and knockings down in their meetings, to waite upon me, who had not other end but to worship me, as I am witness betwee you and them for ever; was not the death of *Urich* laid to *Davids* charge, though he slew him not with his own hands, but consented to it, and not restrained it, who had the power in his hand, and shall not thy witness in you, be the *Nathan* in your particular Conscience, and say thou art the man, or thou consentedst to it and not restrained it when the power was in thy hand: Consider these things before it be to late, and your day pass as the

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shame before the wind, for the Lord God am jealous for *Zion*, with great jealousie, and I will plead her cause with all her Enimies.

Or will your saying we have a Law or an Act of Parliament, and by our Law or Act they ought not to meet above four or five, & by our Law they ought to be imprisoned, or banished, or they ought to dye, or abjure the Land, save you in the day of my fiery faith the Lord. Will your Kings Laws, or Queens laws, or Parliaments laws or decrees, stand you in stead, help hide or save you, when I shall descend upon you in flames of fire, rendring vengeance on all them that obey not my Law and Gospel, written and preached in the heart of every man and woman under Heaven; or will your lying Indictments and Warrants plead for you, which you say my people meet in force of Armes in contempt of the King his Crown and dignity; or will your writing them dangerous, seditious, and wicked Sectaries, and disloyal persons, cover you? (will not all *England* sober people give you the lye in these things; who knoweth our manner and conversation among them? yea, and will not the witness of God in your own Consciences testify the same with them?) or will *Elizabeth* Sturme 35. or she her self rise from the dead, to keep off my vengeance that is hastening upon you for your lyes, injustice and cruelty? will your writing the Assemblys of my people unlawfull? make them so in my sight? was not *Daniels* prayer unlawful? and the Apostles preaching forbidden by the Rulers? but was it so in my sight? judge ye, might not they have said as well as you, they break the peace of Kings and people; were there not great stirs and tumults in all ages, about my people, against them in whom my Spirit of truth was manifest; could the whole Land bear my servant *Amos* his words: Consider what peace is broken, or against what peace my people are: whose weapons are not Carnal, and what people are terrified by them or their meetings in my name and fear, in Truth and Righteousness as you have written, (to the great terror of the people) by your lyes to render them odious, and let my witness in you answer, for I am not come to send peace on earth but a sword, and a fire which is already kindled, and you shall never be able to quench it, for I have raised my seed in my children, and have placed them as a brazen wall in the midst of Nations against the flood of ungodliness, Idolatry

and

and wickedneſs, elſe you had ere this, been deſtroyd as *Sodom* in whom I will manifeſt my terrible power and Kingdom, which hath no end, againſt the Devils Power and Kingdome, which muſt end againſt Oppreſſion and Oppreſſours, murder, and Murderers, injuſtice, cruelty, Idolatry and hypocricy, and all manner of ungodlineſs and unrighteouſneſs of men, which power ſhall grinde the grinders, and bruiſe the bruiſers and oppreſſours of my people, and ſhall tread upon Princes as upon morter, for I am ariſen, and come and coming in thouſands and ten thouſands of my ſaints and Children who tremble at my word, to convince all that are ungodly of their ungodly deeds and hard ſpeeches, and to execute my Judgements upon the rebellious, and gainſaying Generation; and I will gather my Lambs into my boſom, and the Seed of *Iacob* into their own Land, and the meek ſhall inherit the Earth, and the poor in ſpirit ſhall poſſeſs my Everlaſting Kingdom, againſt which work now begun, neither you nor all the Rulers of the darkneſs of this World, your Kings, Queens and Parliaments, with their Laws and decrees, *Gog* nor *Magog*, *Sodom* nor *Gomorah*, *Egypt*, Death nor Hell, with the ſtrength and gates of it, ſhall be able to prevaile or overcome, I the Lord God of Heaven and earth (that made the Worlds in mine eternal word and unchangeable decree) hath ſpoken it.

Therefore theſe things in the fear of God (if you have any) and in ſoberneſs conſider, for it ſhall ſtand a living Teſtimony which ſhall not be made void, but is dropt upon you as an hour of Gods Viſitation the which if you ſlight and repent not of your deeds and unrighteous proceedings againſt his people, you ſhall be left without excuſe in the Terrible day at hand, which haſtens upon you as a Woman in travel that is ready to be delivered, and you ſhall not eſcape; Therefore priſe your time, and be not proud nor Rebellious for the *Lord* hath ſpoken, neither be ye mockers, leaſt your bands are made ſtrong, but believe and tremble, and remember the King of *Ninive*, who ſhall riſe up in Judgement againſt this Generation and Condemnit, for a greater then *Ionah*, and a greater then *Solomon* is riſen among us, who reſpecteth not the perſons of men, but will plead with all fleſh which hath Corrupted its way, by fire and Sword, and the Slaine of the Lord ſhall be many, even all the workers of Iniquity, which hateth reproofe

purpose, desireth good Counsel, and doth not chuse the fear of the Lord.

So this is unto you a Visitation and warning, (from him that lives for ever) of whose blood I his servant am clear, having obeyed his voice, whether you hear or forbear.

I am a Traveller for Sions sake, and a trembler at the word of the great dreadful God, the Righteous Judge of quick and dead, and a follower of the Lamb, through the great tribulations, loving not my life to the death for his sake, Halelujah

Amen.

W.B.

And FRIENDS,

TEll me how you came to be Christians, and by what Law you were lead to Christ, was it Queen *Marys* Law without you, or Queen *Elizabeths* which you now act by, or was it the new Covenant, which God made unto his people? If these Laws before mentioned, as Queen *Elizabeths* or *Marys*, be now the schoolmaster, when came they in force, And when was *Moses* the just man the leader of the people out of *Egypt*, and the Law which God gave to him magnified? And when was the Covenant broken between *Moses* and God? did not he stay their wrath, and stand in the gap between God and his people, and prayed to God for them and God heard his prayer, and his wrath was turned away from *Israel*, whom *Moses* lead out of Egypt, to be tryed in

the Wilderness, as many are at this day, blessed be God, and *Moses* the Instrument which brought them thither, and cursed be they who disobey the command of God given to *Moses*, which is fulfilled in Christ the Elder brother, and them that follow him, who breaketh not the commands of God given to *Moses*; but fulfilleth them in his sufferings, which is now making up at this day.

Have a care what you do in fighting against God in his Members, you who profess your selves to be Christians, Magistrates; persecutors of others who are members of Christs body, who was persecuted by chief Preists and Rulers who professed they had more knowledge of God then them, they persecuted; but their Condemnation was the greater, for that they were sayers and not doers; as many of you are at this day professing Christ in words but serving an hypocritical generation.

Woe to the Pharisees saith Christ; and woe to the Christians now, who profess Christ in words, and in their works and practises deny him, who make long prayers, and their hands full of cruelty and blood, and makes their seat a place of violence, that Justice and Truth cannot be heard, but the simple and upright in heart will learn Judgement; and the prudent in Queen *Elizabeth* and *Marys* Laws, who refuse the Law of God to be their Rule, will God cut off, though called Justices, Cheif Preists or Rulers: Look ye to it for the hand of Justice and true Judgement is lifted up, that the heritage of God shall be known, not by the Law of Queen *Elizabeth* or *Mary* which is now in hand; but by Jesus the King of the Jews, the Son of the living God the highest amongst men, the greatest in the Consciences of all his people, Swear not at all saith he, who is come to be Lord in the Conscience, and none else shall Rule over his Heritage, though now it seems to be trampled upon by injustice and unrighteousness, which is Acted by unrighteous men, who are but as the drop of a Bucket and dust before him: Therefore dread the Lord, ye Kings and Rulers for the Judgement is now setting up, which respecteth not the ways of Kings, because the heart of Kings are in the hand of the Lord who can turn them as a River of Water,

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which way he pleaſeth, and their Life is in his hand as a ſpan; Therefore I ſay dread the Lord all Fleſh. for the day of the Lord haſtens and is even at the doors.

To the truth of which, I ſubſcribe M. B.

SEek not by Laws, made in mans will
The blood of Innocents to ſpill,
For if you do, the Law of God
within your heart, ſhall be the Rod
which ſhall you ſmite, with ſtroaks full ſoar
And you Condemn, for evermore;
For your decrees, whish are unjuſt
They ſhall not ſtand, Gods Counſel muſt.
Profeſſions, words and prayers long,
He hath no pleaſure in
Without the life of righteouſneſs,
All Sacrifice is Sin;
The day is broke, and God's juſt ſtroake
On Hypocrites muſt come,
Their many words and Carnal ſwords
Can't ſave them from their doom,

Amen.

THE END.

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